

Rebecca White Berch (Justice, ret.), Chair
Task Force on the Arizona Rules of Probate Procedure, Petitioner
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SUPREME COURT OF ARIZONA

PETITION TO AMEND THE)	Supreme Court No. R-18-0044
ARIZONA RULES OF PROBATE)	
PROCEDURE)	Motion to Permit Additional Time for
)	Filing a Reply, with a Request
)	for Expedited Consideration
)	
_____)	

Background. Administrative Order No. 2017-133, entered on December 20, 2017, established the Task Force on the Arizona Rules of Probate Procedure (“Task Force”). After a rigorous meeting schedule, and with leave of this Court, the Task Force filed a rule petition requesting comprehensive amendments to the Probate Rules on January 31, 2019. The comment period on this petition closed on May 1, 2019. A Reply is due by June 1, 2019

The Task Force will meet on May 17, 2019 to discuss comments concerning the proposed rules and forms. Although only a half dozen comments were posted on the Court Rules Forum, these comments raise issues that might require extensive discussion by Task Force members. Moreover, the Task Force on its

own initiative has prepared an even longer list of items for discussion. The members' resolution of those items—among them, whether to require a simplified budget in conservatorship estates—will take time. Moreover, the State Bar's Advanced Probate Seminar on May 3, 2019 generated several informal comments that the Task Force will need to address when it reconvenes on May 17.

Motion. There are only nine court days between the Task Force meeting on May 17 and the current June 1 deadline for filing a Reply. This is a comprehensive rule petition, and a two-week extension would allow the Task Force to prepare and file a better Reply. Petitioner therefore moves the Court to extend the time for the Task Force to file its Reply from June 1, 2019, until June 14, 2019. The assigned staff attorney has advised that he can accommodate this new date in preparing the requisite memorandum for the August rules agenda.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 16th day of May 2019.

By /s/ Rebecca White Berch
Rebecca White Berch (Justice, ret.), Chair